

A circular rubber stamp with the words "U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" around the perimeter. In the center, it says "O I P E" at the top and "5161" at the bottom. The date "AUG 19 2005" is stamped in the middle.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Elizabeth A. Dudek
Typed or Printed Name of Person Sending Paper or Fee
Elizabeth A. Dudek August 17, 2005
Signature Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of)
Hiroaki Hara, et al.) Examiner: Not Assigned
on AEROGEL AND METALLIC)
COMPOSITES) Group Art Unit: 1754
Serial No.: 10/695,214) Confirmation No. 4508
Filed: October 28, 2003) (Docket No. 6872-0001-1)

Hartford, Connecticut, August 17, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

Applicant(s) submits herewith Form PTO/SB/08A identifying patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

Under 37 CFR 1.97 (b)

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application, or the date of entry into the national stage of an

international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.

Under 37 CFR 1.97 (c)

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed *after* three months of the filing date of this national application, or the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application, or after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurred last, but *before* the mailing date of either a final action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.

A certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below or
 Fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (\$180.00).

Under 37 CFR 1.97(d)

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed *after* a final action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first, but before, or simultaneously with, the payment of the issue fee. Applicant hereby petitions for the consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement, 37 CFR 1.97(d)(ii). A certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below.

A certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below and
 Fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) (\$180.00).

CERTIFICATION (37 CFR 1.97(e))

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. A copy of the relevant search report is enclosed herewith.

No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

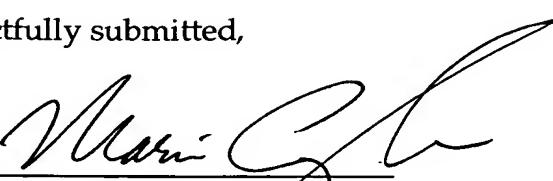
Under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i)

Because the above-referenced application was filed after June 30, 2003, pursuant to USPTO Notice dated 7/11/2003 ("Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications filed after June 30, 2003") Applicant(s) do not provide copies of the U.S. patents identified on the attached PTO/SB/08A form at this time. Should the Examiner require the U.S. patent copies, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner contact Applicants' Representative at the number listed below.

Applicants respectfully request that any deficiencies in the fees be charged to
Deposit Order Account No. 13-0235.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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Attachment (PTO-1449)



FORM PTO-1449
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT(S)

Docket No.: 6872-0001-1
 Applicant: Hiroaki Hara, et al.
 Title: AEROGEL AND METALLIC
 COMPOSITES

U.S. Serial No.: 10/695,214
 U.S. Filing Date: October 28, 2003
 Group Art Unit: 1754

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Examiner's Initials</u>	<u>Patent Number</u>	<u>Patent Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Class Subclass</u>
_____	5,476,878	12/19/1995	Pekala	521/61
_____	6,005,012	12/21/1999	Hrubesh et al.	521/53
_____	6,010,798	01/04/2000	Hammerschmidt et al.	429/30

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Examiner's Initials</u>	<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Translation Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials

____ Copy of "Synthesis and textural characteristics of organic aerogels, transition-metal-containing organic aerogels and their carbonized derivatives" by F. J. Maldonado-Hódar, et al., CARBON 37 (1999), pgs. 1199-1205.

____ Copy of "A new eltcrocatalyst consisting of a molecularly homogeneous platinum-aerogel nanocomposite" by Siyu Y, et al., Can J. Chem. Vol. 75 (1997), pgs. 1666-1673.

____ Copy of "Morphology and Electrochemistry of Ruthenium/Carbon Aerogel Nanostructures" by J. M. Miller, et al., Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of California, Los Angeles, Langmuir (1999), Vol. 15, American Chemical Society, pgs. 799-806.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).